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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
on March 10, 2004

Date of Deposit

Amir N. Penn (40,767)

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

Signature

March 10, 2004

Date of Signature

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Our Case No. 7103/205 (P0707)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Li et al.)
Serial No. 09/938,056) Examiner: George Nguyen
Filing Date: August 23, 2001.) Group Art Unit No.: 3723
For MULTI-STEP POLISHING SYSTEM)
AND PROCESS OF USING SAME)

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 18, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants file the enclosed response to the Office Action dated December 18, 2003 as follows:

Listing of the Claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.



3773

TRANSMITTAL LETTER			Case No. 7103-205 (P0707)
Serial No. 09/938,056	Filing Date August 23, 2001	Examiner George Nguyen	Group Art Unit 3723
Inventor(s) Li, et al.			
Title of Invention MULTI-STEP POLISHING SYSTEM AND PROCESS OF USING SAME			

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Transmitted herewith are: Transmittal Letter (in duplicate); Response to Office Action dated 12/18/03; and Return Postcard.

Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR § 1.27 has been established by verified statement previously submitted.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

Petition for a _____ month extension of time.

No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

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	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra
Total	11	Minus	20	0
Indep.	3	Minus	5	0
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim				

Small Entity		or	Other Than Small Entity	
Rate	Add'l Fee		Rate	Add'l Fee
x \$9=			x \$18=	
x 43=			x \$86=	
+\$145=			+\$290=	
	Total add'l fee	\$		Total add'l fee \$

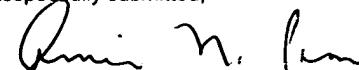
Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 (BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE) in the amount of \$_____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,


 Amir N. Penn
 Registration No. 40,767
 Attorney for Applicant
 Customer No. 00757 - Brinks, Hofer, Gilson & Lione

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
 P.O. BOX 10395
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 (312) 321-4200

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 Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 10, 2004.

Date: March 10, 2004 Signature: Amir N. Penn